

WHEREAS, Twenty-five years ago Esther S. Manz founded the first of the self-help organizations promoting good health through weight control; and,

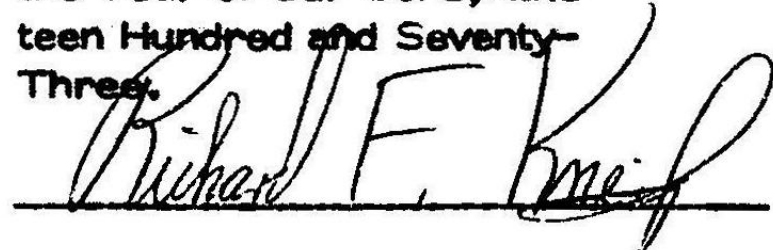
WHEREAS, That organization, TOPS Club, Inc., popularly known as TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly), has now grown by its own good works to more than 330,000 members in more than 12,600 chapters throughout the world; and,

WHEREAS, In the twenty-five years of its history, TOPS Club, Inc. has steadfastly resisted commercial exploitation of the overweight and maintained its noncommercial nonprofit status, turning its earnings over to obesity research; and,

WHEREAS, In our State alone there are now more than 3,147 TOPS members in more than 148 TOPS chapters who have registered a documented weight loss in the past year of 21,714.56 pounds to the betterment of their health and appearance:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD F. KNEIP, Governor of the State of South Dakota, extend congratulations to our STATE TOPS on the occasion of the twenty-fifth Anniversary of TOPS Club, Inc. and recognize the contribution TOPS has made in this State and internationally to good health through obesity research and weight control.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I
have hereunto set my hand
and affixed the Great Seal
of the State of South Dakota,
in Pierre, the Capital City,
this 25th day of June, in
the Year of Our Lord, Nine-
teen Hundred and Seventy-
Three.



RICHARD F. KNEIP, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:



LORNA B. HERSETH, SECRETARY OF STATE

REDUCTION 20
ROLL NO. 1
DATE MICROFILMED 7-31-84
OPERATOR